

**Budget PrePay**<sup>TM</sup>

telecommunications :: clear :: simple

DOCKET NO. \_\_\_\_\_

FILED MAY 24, 2016  
DOCUMENT NO. 03177-16  
FPSC - COMMISSION CLERK

May 23, 2016

***VIA ELECTRONIC FILING***Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850**Re: Request of Budget PrePay, Inc. d/b/a Budget Phone (TX307) to Cancel  
CLEC Authority and Relinquish CETC Designation**

Dear Sir/Madam:

Budget PrePay, Inc. d/b/a Budget Phone ("Budget") (Company Code TX307) hereby gives notice to the Florida Public Service Commission ("Commission") that it has discontinued its provision of wireline local exchange services in the state of Florida following the transfer of all of Budget's Florida subscribers to Global Connection Inc. of America. ("Global Connection"). In support of this filing, Budget submits the following information.

**I. Request to Cancel CLEC Certificate and Withdraw Price List**

Budget was granted a certificate to provide Competitive Local Exchange Telecommunications ("CLEC") service in Florida on June 25, 1999, in Docket No. 990476-TX. Budget is current with all Regulatory Assessment Fees owed the Commission. Accordingly, Budget respectfully requests that the Commission cancel its CLEC certificate.

Budget has on file with the Commission its Florida Price List No. 3 applying to local exchange service. Budget respectfully requests permission to withdraw that price list.

## **II. Request to Relinquish ETC Designation**

On January 25, 2006, the Commission designated Budget as a Lifeline-only eligible telecommunications carrier (“ETC”) in certain areas of Florida in Docket No. 050483-TX (*see also* Order Nos. PSC-05-1255-PAA-TX, PSC-05-1255A-PAA-TX and PSC-06-0067-CO-TX). The rules of the Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”)<sup>1</sup> provide that an ETC in an area served by more than one ETC shall be permitted to relinquish its ETC designation. Several other ETCs, including TracFone Wireless, Virgin Mobile and i-wireless, currently operate in Budget’s designated service area in Florida.<sup>2</sup> Accordingly, Budget hereby requests that it be permitted to relinquish its ETC designation.<sup>3</sup>

## **III. Subscriber Notice**

On September 25, 2015, Budget and Global Connection jointly sent written notice by first-class mail to all affected Budget subscribers, notifying them that beginning on or after October 25, 2015, their telecommunications service will be provided by Global Connection. A sample copy of the notice, which also complies with applicable FCC customer notification

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<sup>1</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 54.205(a).

<sup>2</sup> *See* <http://www.lifelinesupport.org/Is/companies/CompanyListing.aspx?state=FL&stateName=Florida>

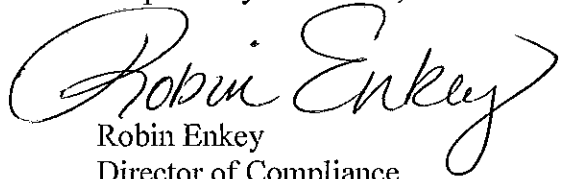
<sup>3</sup> USAC had assigned Budget study area code 219005 for its provision of wireline Lifeline-supported services in Florida.

requirements, is appended as Exhibit 1.<sup>4</sup> The FCC granted the assignment of customers from Budget to Global Connection on November 30, 2015.<sup>5</sup>

\* \* \*

Should you have any questions, please contact Robin Enkey, Budget's Director of Compliance at (318) 671-5784 or, via e-mail, at [robine@budgetprepay.com](mailto:robine@budgetprepay.com).

Respectfully Submitted,



Robin Enkey  
Director of Compliance  
Budget PrePay, Inc. d/b/a Budget Phone

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<sup>4</sup> On October 28, 2015, Global Connection filed a notification with the FCC, pursuant to Section 64.1120(e) of the FCC Rules, 47 C.F.R. § 64.1120(e), that Global Connection intends to acquire a portion of the customer base of Budget.

<sup>5</sup> See Notice of Domestic Section 214 Authorization Granted, WC Docket No. 15-258, DA 15-1370 (rel., Nov. 30, 2015).

**EXHIBIT 1**  
**SAMPLE SUBSCRIBER NOTICE**



<Insert Name>  
<Insert address>  
Re: <Insert BTN>

**IMPORTANT NOTICE  
REGARDING A CHANGE TO YOUR TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE**

Dear <Insert Name>:

We are pleased to share some exciting news about your telecommunications service provider. Beginning on or after [DATE], your telecommunications service, formerly provided by Budget Prepay, Inc. d/b/a Budget Phone (Budget), will be provided by Global Connection Inc. of America (GCIOA).<sup>1</sup> Based in Atlanta, Georgia, GCIOA is a licensed Competitive Local Exchange Carrier (CLEC) in 26 states, providing a range of local and long distance services to residential customers.

GCIOA intends to continue the fine level of customer service you expect and have received from Budget Phone and every effort will be made to ensure that this transition is as seamless as possible.<sup>2</sup>

**No action on your part is required.**

Your service will not be affected. You will continue to use the same telephone number you currently have and there will be no fees applied in connection with the transfer of your service to GCIOA. Importantly, GCIOA will provide you with services that meet or exceed those you currently receive while ensuring that the transfer does not result in an increase to your regular monthly recurring charges.<sup>3</sup> Notice of any future changes in rates, terms and conditions of service will be provided to you as required by law.<sup>4</sup> If you decide that GCIOA is not the right provider for you, you have the right to choose another provider. If you choose to switch to an alternate provider, you may incur a fee from that carrier for the transfer. If you do not choose an alternate provider prior to [DATE], your service will be transferred to GCIOA.

Please note that if you have placed a "freeze" on your Budget service to prevent unauthorized transfer to another carrier, it will be automatically lifted to implement the transfer to GCIOA. You will need to contact GCIOA or your alternative choice of new local phone company to re-establish freeze protection after the transfer.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the change to your home telephone account, you can call GCIOA at any point at 1-877-895-1191 or, prior to the transfer, call Budget Phone at 1-888-424-5588. We will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

We look forward to serving you!

Sincerely,

Dave Skogen  
CEO  
Global Connection Inc. of America  
Customer Service: 1-877-895-1191  
E-Mail: [info@globalconnection.com](mailto:info@globalconnection.com)

Danny Hyde  
CEO  
Budget Prepay, Inc. d/b/a Budget Phone  
Customer Service: 1-888-424-5588

<sup>1</sup>The transfer is contingent upon approval by the Federal Communications Commission and by state commissions, where required.

<sup>2</sup> Customers receiving Lifeline services from Budget will continue to be enrolled to receive Lifeline services from GCIOA.

<sup>3</sup> Many Customers will actually enjoy lower rates for their services and GCIOA will issue billing credits that offset any possible increases.

<sup>4</sup> Notice for Tennessee Customers: Consistent with state law, in the event that Global proposes to make changes to your rates within a period of ninety (90) days following the transfer of your service to Global, the Company will provide you with at least thirty days' advance notice of the proposed change(s).